Summary of LB 920

Sec. 1 The Public Guardianship Act

Sec. 4 The Office of Public Guardian is created.

State Court Administrator will appoint a public guardian.

Public Guardian will hire a deputy and up to 12 associate public guardians.

The public guardian will assume all duties and responsibilities of a guardian and conservator for any individual appointed to his/her supervision, and designate authority to the deputy and associates.

Sec. 5 The office shall:

Provide immediate response when emergency guardian/conservator is needed

Provide option upon resignation, removal or discharge of gdn/cons

Provide equal access and protection

Promote and provide guardian/conservator education to increase awareness and encourage people to serve.

Recruit public and family members to serve as guardians and conservators.

Act as a resource for persons already serving as guardians and conservators.

Safeguard rights by exploring all options available to support individuals in the least restrictive manner

Model highest standards for guardians and conservators

Sec. 6 Advisory Council on Public Guardianship is created

Sec. 7 Court administrator will appoint initial members of council for staggered terms.

Council will advise Public Guardian on administration of public gdncons issues

Sec. 9 Public guardian shall:

Develop reporting and collecting statistical data

Develop standard of practice and code of ethics

Prepare biennial budget

Develop sliding scale do fees

Work with public and private resources to develop training curricula for gdn/con

maintain training programs state wide for interested persons

Promote public awareness

Apply for and receive funds from private and public sources

Sec. 10 The Supreme Court will promulgate rules for the public guardian.

Sec. 11 The Public Guardian will report to the Supreme Court as directed by the court administrator.

Sec. 12 A court may order appointment of the PG as gdn/cons only after notice to the public guardian and determination that the appointment is necessary and will not result in PG having too many appointments.

- **Sec. 13** The Public Guardian will charge fees pursuant to sliding scale
- **Sec. 14** Office will make a reasonable effort on appointed cases to locate a successor guardian, and will report to the AOC twice a year on those efforts. Upon location of successor, the office will file with the court a motion for termination or modification.
- Sec. 15 The Public guardian will accept appointments as gdn/cons for individuals not to exceed an average of 40 individuals per associate public gdn
- Sec. 16 When appointed as guardian, the public guardian shall:

 Be considered as an interested person

 Visit the facility in which the ward or protected person is to be placed, if any

 Monitor the ward or protected person, including contact at least monthly
- **Sec. 17** The public guardian may be discharged upon petition or courts own motion if services are no longer needed.
- **Sec. 18** The Public Guardianship Cash Fund is created and will be administered by the State Court Administrator
- **Sec. 23, Sec. 26** The public guardian shall not be required to post bond when serving as either a guardian or conservator.